## BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

## NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

June 14, 2004

IN RE:	)	
	)	
TENNESSEE COALITION OF RURAL INCUMBENT	)	DOCKET NO.
TELEPHONE COMPANIES AND COOPERATIVES	)	03-00633
REQUEST FOR SUSPENSION OF WIRELINE TO	)	,
WIRELESS NUMBER PORTABILITY OBLIGATIONS	)	
PURSUANT TO SECTION 251(F)(2) OF THE	)	
COMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED	)	

## ORDER AMENDING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE AND EXTENDING INTERIM SUSPENSION THROUGH JULY 26, 2004

This matter came before the panel assigned to this docket at the June 7, 2004 Conference of the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the Authority" or "TRA") for consideration of the request of the Tennessee Coalition of Rural Incumbent Telephone Companies and Cooperatives ("Coalition") to reset the hearing date. After hearing from the parties in this docket, the panel, by a unanimous vote, directed the Hearing Officer to meet with the parties and determine a revised procedural schedule based either on an agreed-upon "paper" hearing or a new hearing date.

The Hearing Officer met with counsel for the parties following the Conference on June 7, 2004. The parties agreed to discuss the use of a "paper" hearing for the purpose of resolving the issues in this case. The parties further stated that in the event they could not agree to a "paper" hearing, the parties would notify the Hearing Officer by June 9, 2004 to set a conference for the purpose of setting a hearing date and making appropriate revisions to the procedural schedule.

On June 9, 2004, the parties, by way of a letter from counsel for Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, informed the Hearing Officer that they had reached an agreement to present this matter to the Authority through a "paper" hearing. The parties also proposed a revised procedural schedule that would encompass the completion of pre-filed testimony and incorporate a date for the filing of briefs. The parties suggested July 26, 2004 as a date on which the Authority could render a decision based on the record of the case and the briefs of the parties. This suggested date would be beyond the original interim suspension date of July 23, 2004 as established by the Hearing Officer in the Order of May 7, 2004. For this reason, the parties have agreed to extend the interim suspension to include the requested decision date.

Upon reviewing the parties' letter of June 9, 2004, the Hearing Officer finds that the parties have complied with the directions of the panel in this docket by discussing and entering into an agreement to proceed to resolution of the issues in this matter through a "paper" hearing and by proposing a reasonable procedural schedule that moves this case toward that resolution. For the sake of clarity, the Hearing Officer states that the entire record of this proceeding, including all filed discovery between the parties, will be available to the Directors for their consideration in reaching a decision.

On June 11, 2004, counsel for SprintCom, Inc. d/b/a Sprint PCS ("Sprint") filed a letter reflecting an agreement between the Coalition and Sprint that would extend the date for Sprint to respond to the Coalition's discovery and the date by which the Coalition must file rebuttal testimony in response to Sprint's direct testimony. In the Hearing Officer's Order of June 2, 2004, the Hearing Officer permitted the Coalition to serve discovery requests on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Order Granting Petitions For Intervention and Motion for Suspension Pending Proceeding and Establishing Expedited Procedural Schedule (May 7, 2004)

Sprint in advance of filing rebuttal testimony due to Sprint being granted intervention after the procedural schedule was in place. This necessitated the Coalition being given the opportunity to file rebuttal testimony solely as to Sprint after the date established for the general filing of rebuttal testimony. The Hearing Officer finds that the extension of time for responding to discovery and, in turn, for the filing of rebuttal testimony is for good cause and will not disrupt the conduct of this proceeding inasmuch as the entire procedural schedule should be revised at this point.

The Hearing Officer approves the revised procedural schedule proposed by all parties as reflected in the June 9, 2004 letter and approves the extensions proposed by Sprint and the Coalition as they pertain to the filings of those parties. In accordance with the agreement of the parties, the following revised procedural schedule is in place:

Sprint's Responses to Coalition's Discovery Requests (one copy filed with the Authority)

Wednesday, June 16, 2004

Rebuttal Testimony Due (Except Coalition's Rebuttal to Sprint's Direct Testimony)

Friday, June 18, 2004

Coalition's Rebuttal Testimony to Sprint's Direct Testimony

Tuesday, June 22, 2004

**Briefs Due (from all Parties)** 

Friday, July 9, 2004

**Proposed Date for Decision** 

Monday, July 26, 2004

The parties have agreed to an extension of the interim suspension through July 26, 2004 to provide for a decision by the Authority on July 26. The Hearing Officer finds that this agreed extension is reasonable under the circumstances and approves the extension of three days through July 26, 2004.

## IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT

1. This matter shall proceed to deliberation by the panel assigned to this docket to

determine issues of law and fact based on the evidentiary record reflected in the docket file,

which shall include, but be not limited to: the Amended Petition and supporting

documentation, responses of the parties, discovery responses filed by the parties, pre-filed

direct and rebuttal testimony and the parties' briefs.

2. The interim suspension until July 23, 2004 of the Federal Communications

Commission's local number portability requirements granted to the Coalition in the Hearing

Officer's May 7, 2004 Order is extended through July 26, 2004.

3. The expedited procedural schedules, as set forth in the Hearing Officer's May

7, 2004 and June 2, 2004 Orders, are hereby amended as reflected in this Order. The

procedural schedule in this Order shall be in effect unless further amended or modified by

order of the Hearing Officer or the panel assigned to this docket.

4. This Order is effective upon being entered. Any party aggrieved by the action

of the Hearing Officer may file an appeal with the Authority no later than fifteen (15) days

from the date of this Order.

J. Richard Collier, Hearing Officer

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